

ACADEMY SPIRIT

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Briefly

Partial bridge closure

Outbound lanes of the bridge just south of the intersection between Pine Drive and Stadium and Southgate boulevards will close for structural repairs and repaving Monday. The project is scheduled to be completed by Sept. 24. For more information see Construction Update on page 4.

Towed vehicles

Unregistered vehicles are likely to be towed from parking areas during higher Force Protection Conditions, remind 10th Security Forces Squadron officials. Base people are advised to register their vehicles to prevent this inconvenience and to assist with base security.

Cadet charged

Charges were preferred Sept. 2 against Cadet 1st Class Christopher C. Min for one violation of the Uniform Code of Military Justice's Article 112a, Wrongful Use of a Schedule III Controlled Substance - anabolic steroids. A trial date has not yet been set.



Photo by Charley Starr

A Rough Landing

California free safety Matt Giordano (#20) plows into the Falcons' Shaun Carney knocking the quarterback horizontal during Saturday's game at Falcon Stadium. Cal ripped Air Force 56-14 in both team's season opener avenging a

23-21 loss in Berkeley, Calif., last season. The Falcons are at home again Saturday against Eastern Washington. Kick off is at noon with the Academy's gates opening to traffic four hours earlier.

Voting aid spreads across Academy

Deadline to request absentee ballots less than one week away

Academy Spirit Staff

Less than one week remains to safely submit requests for voter registration or absentee ballots for the November 2004 General Election, according to the Academy's voting assistance officer.

"[Wednesday] has been identified as the absolute last sure date to get those

requests in and meet most state deadlines," said Maj. Bernard Vanpelt from the 10th Medical Group. The major is in charge of the Academy's plan to encourage voter participation among base people.

"Voting officers around base have been diligently spreading the word and contacting members in their units," he said. The pro-vote team is ensuring citizens who want to participate receive the necessary Federal Post Card Application to register and update their current voter information. Including cadets, 100 percent of the base has been contacted, according to a recent staff briefing.

The voting cause received another

push last week as the Secretary of Defense decreed Sept. 3 through Saturday Armed Forces Voters Week. Academy voting officers have already sponsored voter information booths in recent weeks at the base exchange and commissary to reach the family population. Academy members can expect to see more advertisements and announcements to remind everyone of the importance of timely submission of Federal Post Card Applications, said the major.

Airmen may also access their state's voting information in three clicks or less at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/AirmenVotes.

Firefighters prepare for world competition

Story by Eddie Kovsky
Academy Spirit staff

Five Academy firefighters are training hard for the World Firefighter Combat Challenge regional competition in Erie, Pa. Saturday. If their times

qualify, the team moves forward to the finals Nov. 11 in Las Vegas.

Firefighters must race up a five-story building carrying a 42-pound hose, and then hoist another hose up through the window when they reach

the top. Participants then run back down the stairs, where they must hammer a 160-pound sledge five feet, then sprint through a slalom of cones, drag another hose 75 feet and knock aside a softball with a stream of water while

struggling with the pressure from the hose. And finally, the firefighter completes the course by dragging a 175-pound dummy backwards 100 feet to safety.

Team captain Staff Sgt. Kory Cofer, Staff Sgt. William ■ **See Fire, page 5**